

'How to Handle Harassment for Your Faith' The Genuine Pursuit of Happiness—Part 8

April 22, 2007—10 AM Dr. Bradley T. Trask

Matthew 5:1-12



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Renewal Verse: 'Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.' 2 Cor. 4:16

Seven Steps to R.E.N.E.W.A.L.

Step #1: Recognize I'm not God

Renewing Attitude #1: I am totally helpless

Step #2: Earnestly believe that God exists and that I matter to Him

Renewing Attitude #2: I believe that God can help me

Step #3: Nobly surrender my life and will to God's control

Renewing Attitude #3: I'll seek to be meek without becoming weak

Step #4: Evaluate and accept God's righteousness as a gift of grace.

Renewing Attitude #4: I'll yield to God's change process

Step #5: Willingly extend forgiveness to those who have hurt me.

Renewing Attitude #5: I'll get what I give!

Step #6: Aim for purity instead of perfection.

Renewing Attitude #6: I'll admit my faults & accept God's cleansing!

Step #7: Lead others to find peace with God.

Renewing Attitude #7: I'll build bridges not walls!

I. THE R_____ OF HARASSMENT

v. 10: Blessed are those who are persecuted...

v. 11: Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all manner of evil against you because of me.

II. THE R_____ FOR HARASSMENT

- John 15:20
- 2 Timothy 3:12

III. MY R_____ TO HARASSMENT

Four Reactions

A. R_____ the source

- Ephesians 6:12
- Rev. 12:10

B. R_____ to retaliate

- Romans 12:17,19

C. R_____ positively

- Romans 12:21
- Matthew 5:44

D. R_____ in it

- Matthew 5:11,12a
- Philippians 3:10,11

Reasons to Rejoice

i. It means that G_____ S_____ can be seen in my life (1 Peter 4:14)

ii. It means that God can t_____ me (Acts 5:41)

iii. It is only t_____ (2 Cor. 4:17)

IV. THE R_____ AFTER HARASSMENT

- Romans 8:17
- Matthew 19:29

V. THE R_____ IN HARASSMENT

- 1 Peter 4:19
- Acts 21:12,13

